

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph on page 4, lines 7-11 as follows:

- the R¹ substituents, which are identical or different, each represent an aliphatic, ~~cyclanic~~ cyclic or aromatic, saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted, C₁ to C₁₃ monovalent hydrocarbonaceous radical;

Please amend the paragraph from page 14, line 22 to page 15, lines 6 as follows:

The term "catalytically effective amount of catalyst D" is understood to mean an amount such that the functionalization reaction rate is as high as possible, in particular on using Si(OC₂H₅)₄, CH₃Si(OCH₃)₃, CH₃Si(OC₂H₅)₃, (C₂H₅O)₃Si(OCH₃), (CH₂=CH)Si(OCH₃)₃ and (CH₂=CH)Si(OC₂H₅)₃ as functionalization agent. In the majority of cases, use is made of 0.01 to 5 mol of catalyst per 1 mol of silanol groups (≡Si-OH) contributed, first, by the hydroxylated polymer(s) A and, secondly, ~~[lacuna]~~ the hydroxylated resin(s) B. In the preferred case, in which lithium hydroxide is resorted to, use is made of 0.005 to 0.5 mol of LiOH per 1 mol of silanol groups.